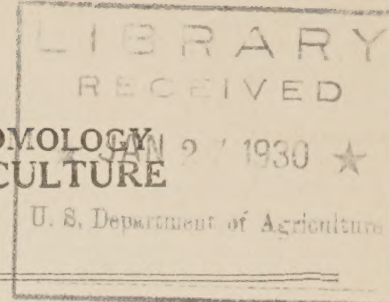


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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Number 188

December, 1929

DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECTS

A. L. Quaintance, in Charge

Oliver I. Snapp addressed the South Carolina Peach Growers' Association at its annual meeting in Columbia, S. C., on December 4.

L. C. McAlister, Jr., in charge of blueberry-maggot investigations at Cherryfield, Me., is temporarily in Washington, summarizing his field notes, doing library work, etc. He expects to remain in Washington for several months.

E. J. Newcomer and M. A. Yothers, of the field laboratory at Yakima, Wash., attended the fourth annual meeting of the members of the Western Cooperative Oil Spray Project, at Spokane, December 12 and 13. The membership of this group comes from the Agricultural Experiment Stations of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and California, the Canadian Department of Agriculture, and the United States Department of Agriculture. Besides reviewing the work of 1929 and making plans for 1930, the project assembled suggestions for the practical use of oil sprays in 1930, which will be published through various channels. Mr. Newcomer is chairman of the group.

Contributions from the Japanese-Beetle Laboratory

On December 2 Dr. F. A. Fenton, in charge of the bureau's field laboratory at El Paso, Tex., visited the Japanese-Beetle Laboratory. Doctor Fenton was much interested in the laboratory generally, but spent considerable time in looking over the equipment used in the laboratories devoted to parasites of the Japanese beetle and of the oriental peach moth.

Loren B. Smith, in charge of the Japanese-Beetle Laboratory, left for Des Moines, Iowa, on December 27 to attend the meetings of the American Association of Economic Entomologists. On December 30, before the Section of Plant Quarantine and Inspection, he gave a paper on the problems in Japanese-beetle research.

BEE CULTURE

Jas. I. Hambleton, in Charge

Edward S. Prevost, of the Extension Service, Clemson Agricultural College, Clemson College, S. C., visited the Bee Culture Laboratory on December 10. Mr. Prevost was particularly interested in learning the possibilities of obtaining a reliable and complete census of bees and honey in South Carolina, and is planning to have beekeepers of his State work in active cooperation with the census enumerators during the coming spring, when the enumeration will be made.

Kennith Hawkins, one of the war-time extension men of the Division of Bee Culture Investigations, now sales manager of a firm manufacturing beekeepers' supplies at Watertown, Wis., visited the Bee Culture Laboratory on December 17. Mr. Hawkins discussed the research work now in progress at the laboratory, and made a number of valuable suggestions. He also reported on beekeeping conditions in the Southern States, from which he had just returned. While in Washington he called on Dr. H. E. Barnard, President of the American Honey Institute.

Mrs. Marian A. Carter, Chief Clerk of the Division of Bee Culture Investigations, was retired because of disability on December 14. Much credit is due her for the valuable assistance she rendered in charge of the clerical and stenographic work during the many years she has been connected with the Bee Culture Laboratory. Few Government officials have a more enviable record. Upon retiring, Mrs. Carter received an official letter of commendation from the Secretary of Agriculture.

Prof. Lloyd M. Bertholf, of Western Maryland College, Westminster, Md., visited the laboratory on December 16, to look after some details concerning a paper he is preparing on his last summer's work, dealing with responses of honeybees to ultra-violet rays.

Jas. I. Hambleton left Washington on December 27 for an extended trip. He attended the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Des Moines, Iowa, and from there will visit the Intermountain Bee Culture Field Laboratory, at Laramie, Wyo., then go to the beekeeping centers of the Pacific Coast States. He will return by way of Baton Rouge, La., where he will visit the Southern States Bee Culture Field Laboratory, and will attend the meetings of the American Honey Producers' League in Milwaukee, Wis., on February 3 to 6. During this period the Bee Industries Association and the Association of Apiary Inspectors of America will also hold meetings in Milwaukee. Mr. Hambleton will then attend the meeting of the Ohio State Beekeepers' Association at Columbus, Ohio.

Mr. Hiatt, Agent of the G. B. Lewis Co., of Lynchburg, Va., visited the Laboratory on December 26.

Dr. Warren Whitcomb, jr., of the Southern States Bee Culture Field Laboratory, Baton Rouge, La., attended the meeting of the Alabama State Beekeepers' Association at Montgomery, Ala., on November 7 and 8. After the meeting Doctor Whitcomb, accompanied by L. T. Floyd, Provincial Apiarist of Manitoba, and H. C. Short, President of the Alabama State Beekeepers' Association, visited a large number of the queen breeders and package-bee producers in the heart of the package-bee industry in Alabama.

J. E. Eckert, of the Intermountain Bee Culture Field Laboratory, Laramie, Wyo., attended the meeting of the Wyoming Beekeepers' Association at Thermopolis, Wyo., on December 12 to 14, and addressed the meeting on "The flight range of the honeybee."

Dr. A. P. Sturtevant, in charge of the Intermountain Bee Culture Field Laboratory, Laramie, Wyo., attended the meeting of the Idaho State Beekeepers' Association, and the conference of apiary inspectors, at Buhl, Idaho, December 16 to 18. Doctor Sturtevant spoke on "The various problems associated with apiary inspection."

TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, in Charge

N. F. Howard, Columbus, Ohio, upon his return from the Eastern Shore of Maryland on December 14, visited College Park, Md., to confer with Prof. E. N. Cory, of the University of Maryland, regarding next season's plans for the control of the Mexican bean beetle in Maryland.

R. E. Campbell, Alhambra, Calif., has been granted a furlough to undertake special studies at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, beginning in January, 1930. He visited Washington, D. C., on December 17, for conference in regard to the pepper weevil and wireworms in California. En route to St. Paul, Minn., from Washington, he stopped over at Columbus, Ohio, and attended the entomological meetings at Des Moines, Iowa.

R. Cecil, Geneva, N. Y., and J. R. Douglass, Estancia, N. M., have been called to Columbus, Ohio, for the winter, to review with N. F. Howard their last season's work on the Mexican bean beetle.

The following employees of this division attended the annual meeting of the American Association of Economic Entomologists at Des Moines, Iowa: R. E. Campbell, Alhambra, Calif., Walter Carter, Twin Falls, Idaho, R. Cecil, Geneva, N. Y., J. R. Douglass, Estancia, N. M., C. W. Getzendaner, Puyallup, Wash., and W. A. Shands, Grand Junction, Colo.

COTTON INSECTS

B. R. Coad, in Charge

In December Mr. Coad spent some days attending a conference at College Station, Tex., reviewing the cooperative research with officials of the Texas State Experiment Station, on the cotton bollworm and similar problems. Plans for a publication on the work of the last several years were drawn up, and arrangements perfected for the cooperative research for the coming season. Mr. Coad next visited the lower Rio Grande Valley and completed arrangements for enlarging the investigations of the cotton flea hopper in that territory, then visited the San Antonio offices of the Plant Quarantine and Control Administration for conferences regarding the pink bollworm. He also made a survey of conditions in plantations in the central Brazos bottoms, with the idea of undertaking additional work there next season on the control of the overlapping infestations of bollworm, flea hopper, leaf worm, boll weevil, and cotton louse, all of which have for several seasons been exceedingly injurious to the cotton crop in that district.

D. L. Moody was appointed Field Assistant, with headquarters at El Paso, Tex., and reported for duty December 2, 1929.

FOREST INSECTS

F. C. Craighead, in Charge

While in New York City on December 27, 28, and 30, Dr. T. E. Snyder, of this office, consulted with the Western Union Telegraph Company, the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, and the Pan American Petroleum and Transportation Company, with regard to control of termites, particularly in the tropics.

Contributions from the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory

Dr. F. A. Fenton, of the Pink-Bollworm Laboratory at El Paso, Tex., spent December 5 and 6 at the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory, for consultation on methods employed in biological studies on insect parasites. Other visitors in December were F. S. Puckett, of Toledo, Ohio, R. E. McDonald, of San Antonio, Tex., and H. L. McIntyre, of the New York State Conservation Commission, at Albany.

C. F. W. Muesebeck was in Washington December 7 to 14, studying types of certain Braconidae at the National Museum.

T. H. Jones and R. L. Wallis attended the meetings of the American Association of Economic Entomologists at Des Moines, Iowa, December 30 to January 2. In the absence of Mr. Collins, who was unable to attend, Mr. Jones acted as secretary of the Association.

TAXONOMY

Harold Morrison, in Charge

Dr. J. M. Robinson, of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, spent December 1 examining specimens of the genus *Diabrotica* in the collection of Coleoptera.

Prof. C. C. Ghosh, entomologist in the agricultural college at Mandalay, Burma, visited the Division of Insects on December 6.

C. F. W. Muesebeck, of the bureau's gipsy-moth and brown-tail moth laboratory, at Melrose Highlands, Mass., spent December 7 to 14 in Washington, studying the collection of braconid wasps, particularly certain genotypes, and consulting with the specialists on parasitic Hymenoptera.

Prof. A. W. Lindsey, of Dennison University, Granville, Ohio, a well-known student of the HesperIIDae, recently called at the National Museum to consult with the bureau lepidopterists.

Cornelius B. Philip, who has recently been in Lagos, South Nigeria, working on the yellow fever investigations for the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation, stopped in Washington December 18 and 19 to compare some mosquitoes with material in the National collection. He was on his way to Montana, where he will undertake work on the Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

E. T. Boardman, of the department of zoology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, spent December 23 in the National Museum, studying the tick collection and consulting with Dr. Ewing.

George G. Ainslie, of the Bureau's cereal and forage insect laboratory at West Lafayette, Ind., came to Washington December 26, and plans to spend about two months in the taxonomic unit working on the North American Crambidae.

INSECT PEST SURVEY

J. A. Hyslop, in Charge

J. A. Hyslop attended the annual meeting of the American Association of Economic Entomologists at Des Moines, Iowa, December 30 to January 2, and presided over the newly recognized section, the Section of Extension. He also presented the annual summary of insect conditions in the United States for 1929, and attended the annual conference on the Hessian fly.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECTS

W. H. Larrimer, in Charge

Among the members of this division who attended the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Des Moines, Iowa, December 27, 1929, to January 2, 1930, were C. M. Packard, L. H. Patch, Geo. I. Reeves, A. F. Satterthwait, F. W. Smith, and E. V. Walter.

Dr. F. A. Fenton, in charge of investigations of the pink bollworm, visited the field laboratory at New Orleans on December 18. Doctor Fenton was especially interested in methods of introducing foreign parasites. Octave Piel, S. J., Université L'Aurore, Shanghai, China, and L. G. Jones, of the field laboratory at Monroe, Mich., also visited that laboratory during the month.

Visitors at the Washington office in December were R. A. Blanchard, of the Sacramento, Calif., field laboratory, Geo. I. Reeves, of the field laboratory at Salt Lake City, Utah, C. C. Hill, John S. Pinckney, and Edgar J. Udine, of the field laboratory at Carlisle, Pa., and F. A. Fenton, in charge of research investigations of the pink bollworm.

INSECTS AFFECTING MAN AND ANIMALS

F. C. Bishopp, in Charge

D. C. Parman returned to his duties at Uvalde, Tex., early in December, after spending several weeks at Coachella, Calif., directing the work there on the eye gnat.

D. G. Hall, engaged in investigations of the eye gnat, writes that a careful study of the literature indicates that the generic name *Hippelates* has been incorrectly used. "The change is noted by Bezzi, 1928, *Diptera of the Fiji Islands*, British Museum Natural History, p. 148. Bezzi states 'Doctor Kertész (Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung., XII, p. 674, 1914), from an examination of the genotype, in the British Museum, states that *Cadrema*, Walker, 1860, must be substituted for *Hippelates*, Loew, 1863.'"

F. C. Bishopp attended the entomological meetings, at Des Moines, Iowa, where he presented a paper by Bishopp, Laake and Wells, on tests of insecticides for control of cattle grubs.

Dr. W. V. King, in charge of the field laboratory at Mound, La., returned there early in December, after spending several days in Washington.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

NEW BOOKS

Anthony, H. E.

Field book of North American mammals. 625 p., illus. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1929.

China, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labor. Bureau of Inspection and Testing of Commercial Commodities.

History of China's sericultural industry. 18 p. Shanghai? 1929?

Henderson, I. F., and Henderson, W. D.

A list of scientific terms, pronunciation, derivation and definition of terms in biology, botany, zoology, anatomy, cytology, embryology, physiology. Ed. 2, rev. 352 p. Edinburgh and London, Oliver and Boyd, 1929.

Jepson, F. P.

The control of "Calotermes" in living plants. 11 p. Colombo, A. C. Richards, Acting Government Printer, 1929. (Ceylon Dept. Agr. Bul. 86.)

Kumm, H. W.

The geographical distribution of the malaria carrying mosquitoes. A collection of recorded material in the literature and in personal communications to the author. 178 p. Baltimore, American Journal of Hygiene, 1929. (Amer. Jour. Hygiene. Monographic Series No. 10, Aug. 1929.)

Lackschwetz, P.

Nachträge zu den Neuropteren und Trichopteren des Ostbaltischen Gebietes. Tartu-Dorpat, Mattiesen, 1928. 40 p. (Archiv für Naturkunde Estlands (vormals Liv-, Ehst.- und Kurlands) II. ser.: Biologica, vol. XIV, Pt. 4.) Herausgegeben von der Naturforscher-Gesellschaft bei der Universität Tartu, Dorpat.

Leuenberger, Fritz.

Les abeilles, anatomie et physiologie. Traduit de l'allemand par George F. Jaubert . . . 195 p., illus. Paris, Payot, 1929. (Bibliothèque scientifique.) (Bibliographie, p. 188-191.)

Lundie, A. E.

The rearing of queen bees. 23 p. Pretoria, Government Printer, 1929. (Union of South Africa Dept. Agr. Bul. 76.)

Makower, Walter, and Geiger, H.

Practical measurements in radio-activity. 151 p., illus. London, New York, etc., Longmans, Green, and Co., 1912.

Matheson, Robert.

A handbook of the mosquitoes of North America; their structure, how they live, how they carry disease, how they may be studied, how they may be controlled, how they may be identified. 268 p., incl. 25 pl. Springfield, Ill. Baltimore, Md., C. C. Thomas, 1929. (References, p. 208-209.)

Peryassu, A. G.

Os culicídeos do Brazil . . . 407 p., illus., pl., maps, tables.
Rio de Janeiro, Instituto Manguinhos, Typographia Leuzinger, 1908.

Skinner, H. M.

The giant moth borer of sugar-cane (*Castnia licus*- Drury.) 8 p.,
illus. col. pl. Trinidad, Government Printer, 1929. (Supplement
to Tropical Agriculture, January 1930.)

Worcestershire County Council--Agricultural Education Sub-Committee.
Ox warble fly. Report on the demonstration and experiments carried out in Worcestershire in 1928 and 1929. 26 p. Worcester Department of Agricultural Education, Shirehall, Worcester, Oct., 1929.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal Regulations

We are quoting below from a recent letter issued by the Bureau of Plant Industry. This subject is of the greatest importance and is worthy of careful study by the personnel of this Bureau.

"Inquiry is sometimes made whether strict compliance with the fiscal regulations is essential to good administration. The answer repeatedly made to this question is that compliance with law, and the rules and regulations established thereunder, is imperative in the proper conduct of the Government's business. There is no more important responsibility in our expenditures of public funds than careful observance of the law as embodied in the Fiscal and Administrative Regulations.

"In cases where employees have violated the fiscal regulations or, in one way or another, have made false statements relating to fiscal records where there is evident dishonesty of intent, the action to be taken with reference to the employee concerned is clear and necessary. Most cases which involve difficulty, however, are those where the infraction of the fiscal regulations results from carelessness, from apparent ignorance of what the regulations require, through an effort to accomplish a desirable end by methods in conflict with the regulations, or from an effort to get out of some complication in the least embarrassing way.

"We are especially concerned over the thought sometimes voiced that as long as a man does not personally benefit, misrepresentation in fiscal records is not particularly serious, and over the possibility that the making of improper records may be disregarded or condoned by employees supervising the work of others. It should be kept clearly in mind that, in undertaking work for the Federal Government, a contract is entered into by the individual not only to carry out certain specific tasks but to accomplish these tasks under the laws and regulations provided by Congress and the executive officers of the Government.

"It is recognized that in some respects the fiscal regulations are not entirely adapted to the carrying on of some activities of the Department. Certain requirements at times appear unreasonable and difficult to operate under." It is also recognized, however, that a great deal of the trouble results from the lack of planning and anticipation of needs. "Effort has been made to have undesirable restrictions corrected and such effort will be continued. But however difficult the fiscal regulations may seem, they must be strictly respected. No one can agree that a regulation which appears unjust or unreasonable to some persons affected by it is not to be complied with. That idea once started is fatal to the morale of any organization. It should be the universal rule that whenever Bureau officers are in doubt as to what may properly be done in any fiscal matter, they will give the supervising or auditing officers all the facts and be guided by their determination.

"Many changes in our business practices have become necessary during recent years due to changes in methods of handling Government finances by Congress, the Bureau of the Budget, and the Comptroller General. More and more it is important that individuals responsible for Government expenditures be fully informed of Government requirements and changes in laws or procedure as made, and that the rules and regulations resulting be carefully and completely adhered to. It is appreciated that men in the field frequently do not recognize the significance of instructions as given in the form of memoranda or correspondence, and incident to the pressure of their work overlook new laws or practices which may be established. This is not accepted by any of the agencies concerned as an adequate explanation for deviations from the regulations. Too often ignorance of the fiscal regulations is pleaded as an excuse for their violation. A definite responsibility rests upon the supervisory officers for instructing their subordinates in the Fiscal and Administrative Regulations and in making clear to them the responsibility for knowing the regulations. All employees in administrative positions are necessarily responsible for making clear to their subordinates that they must know and respect the regulations governing their work.

"The Office of the Comptroller General maintains a field corps of investigators that move from place to place in the field and investigate any branches of the service that may be conducting work in that region. Should these representatives of the Comptroller General's Office call on any of the field men, they should be given every cooperation toward a full and complete study of our business practices and the field men should take advantage of the opportunity to secure advice and assistance with a view to improving their methods.

"The Chief of Bureau must necessarily hold Heads of Offices responsible for the legal and effective expenditures of funds allotted to them for work under their supervision. To insure efficient administration it is necessary that they so delegate responsibility that approvals of expenditures be made only by those in a position to know that the expenditure is in fact made as represented and necessary and desirable in the successful accomplishment of the work as well as in conformity with law.

"Above all, it should be emphasized that the utmost frankness be maintained regarding any special difficulties or weaknesses in the work, and that all such matters be promptly and completely reported so that proper methods may be adopted and any misunderstandings and mistakes corrected at the earliest possible moment."

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Responsibility of the Government in Case of Injury to Person or Property
Caused by Vehicle Driven by Government Employee

(See Official Record, Vol. 8, No. 52, December 26, 1929, Page 5.)

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The following abstracts of recent decisions of the Comptroller General of the United States, are of general interest:

Vol. 9, A-29145, page 203: Traveling Expenses - Steamship Accommodations
"On trans-Atlantic vessels on which the highest class of accommodations are designated as "cabin class," all cabin-class rates are "first-class rates" within the meaning of the Standardized Government Travel Regulations, and the traveler is ordinarily limited to the minimum cabin-class rates upon such vessels.

Vol. 8, A-26873, page 588: Contracts - Alleged Mistake in Bid.
"Under the standard form of invitation for bids and the standard form of bid bond, prospective bidders are notified that bids may not be withdrawn after they are opened because of negligence in submission of bids, and where bids are submitted on such forms and the bidder does not allege mistake until after the bids are opened, such bidder may not be permitted to withdraw its bid. Where such bid is the lowest bid meeting the specifications the same should be accepted and if the bidder refuses to deliver the material, purchase should be made from the next lowest bidder after notice, and the papers transmitted to the General Accounting Office for collection of the difference in price from the low bidder and its surety.

A-26745, page 615: Public Property Damaged in Transit - Recoveries from Carriers.
"Recoveries from common carriers either in actual cash or by deductions from the carrier's bills for damage to or loss of public property while in transit are for depositing and covering into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts. 21 Comp. Dec. 632 distinguished.

A-27316, page 623: Contracts - Delays - Extensions of Time.
"There is no authority under the Standard Government Construction Contract for administrative officers to grant extensions of time because of delays in completion of the work. Any adjustment of time for performance required on account of extra work or changed conditions is not for settlement as an extension of time.

A-27490, page 636: Purchases - Passenger-Carrying Vehicles.
"The term "passenger-carrying vehicle" as used in section 5 of the act of July 16, 1914, 38 Stat. 508, includes all vehicles designed and constructed primarily for carrying passengers regardless of the use to which they may be put and where, from the description and photographs, it appears they are designed and constructed for use primarily as passenger-carrying vehicles. The fact that the vehicles are so constructed that they may be used for transportation of repair material, tools, testing equipment, etc., by attaching a slip-on body does not authorize considering them as other than passenger-carrying vehicles, the slip-on body being an accessory and not an integral part of the vehicle.

"From the description and photographs of the vehicles, models 625-A and 627-A (Roadster with either open slip-on body or closed slip-on body) it is clear that they are designed and constructed for use primarily as passenger-carrying vehicles within the meaning of that term as used in the act of July 16, 1914, supra. The fact that the vehicles are so constructed that they may be used for the transportation of repair material, tools, testing equipment, etc., by attaching a slip-on body does not authorize considering them as other than passenger-carrying vehicles, the slip-on body being an accessory and not an integral part of the vehicle.

"Answering your question specifically you are advised that the proposed purchase of the models 625-A and 627-A, as outlined in your letter, would be in direct contravention of the provisions of the act of July 16, 1914, supra.

"With reference to the de luxe delivery car, it appears from the description and photograph that while it is designed to resemble a passenger-carrying vehicle and to carry at least one passenger in addition to the driver, it is not designed and constructed for use primarily as a passenger-carrying vehicle within the term as used in the said act of July 16, 1914, supra. See Comp. Sec. 33; 26 id. 904; 27 id. 1016; 3 Comp. Gen. 900. Therefore, if it can be shown that such a vehicle is necessary to meet the requirements for which its purchase is proposed - that is, that no cheaper vehicle will meet the actual needs of the service - its purchase would be authorized.

A-26841, page 647: Contracts - Damages - Contracting Officer's Authority.

"No officer of the Government is authorized to enter into a contract whereby the United States is made to assume all liability in an indefinite amount for all damage or injury to persons or property that may result during the progress of the work, and such provision made in a contract is null and void, the contracting officer having exceeded his authority in entering into such agreement.

Vol. 9, A-28003, page 23: Debarment of Bidders

"There is no authority under sec. 3709, Revised Statutes, for the permanent debarment of bidders for furnishing supplies to the War Department, but where past performances have been unsatisfactory through attempt to defraud the Government, instructions may be issued to reject all bids of such contractor until such time as the contractor is able to submit satisfactory assurances of the discontinuance of such practices.

A-27950, page 24: Bidders - Proposals - Modification.

"Under section 3709, Revised Statutes, there is no authority to permit a bidder to modify its proposal which failed to comply with the specifications after the bids have been opened when other bids received do comply with the specifications and are reasonable in price.

A-28031, page 65: Contracts - Delays - Actual Damages.

"Where the advertisement for bids had informed prospective bidders that time of delivery would be considered an important factor in making the award and a higher bidder was awarded the contract because it proposed to make delivery within a shorter period of time than the low bidder, and the contractor was delayed in delivery, there will be deducted from the contract price a proportionate amount of the difference between the low bid and the accepted bid based on the ratio between the number of days delay in making delivery to the difference in time stated in the accepted figure and the low figure.

A-28794, page 147: Transportation - Household Effects of Civilian Employees Changing Station.

"Under the Act of Feb. 20, 1929, 45 Stat. 1245, 1246, a physician of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, who stored his household effects in a neighboring city while absent from his permanent station on temporary duty, may have such effects shipped at Government expense from such place of storage to his new permanent station to which he may subsequently be ordered, provided that the expenses incident to such shipment do not exceed what it would have cost to have made the shipment direct from the old permanent station to the new permanent station.

A-28853, page 151: Transportation - Mileage Books.

"In cases where continuous travel between places but a short distance apart is involved and a substantial saving or convenience to the Government will result, the purchase of mileage books not in excess of the current needs is authorized under par. 34 of the Standardized Government Travel Regulations, such purchase not being in contravention of sec. 3648 of the Revised Statutes.

A-28946, page 154: Contracts - Leases - Payments to Executors or Administrators.

"Hereafter, vouchers executed in the name of an executor or administrator of an estate calling for payment under a contract or lease with the United States will be supported by a statement thereon to the effect that the executor or administrator continues to so act with the approval of the court in the administration of the estate.

A-28998, page 160: Contracts - Rescission - Mistake in Bid.

"Where it is clearly established that a contractor made a mistake in the submission of its bid, to which the attention of the contracting officer was invited before the signing of the contract or the beginning of performance thereunder, the contract may be rescinded and the bidder released from any obligation thereunder.

A-28947, page 161: Contracts - Discounts.

"Where the contract provided that payments were to be made by the

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., upon properly certified bills, after inspection and acceptance of the material, the responsibility of seeing that the invoices were received promptly by the bureau or office of the Government specified in the contract was that of the contractor, and its contention that the deduction of discount for prompt payment should not have been made in view of the respective dates the invoices were received at the office of the inspector of naval material in New York, N. Y., is not tenable.

A-29021, page 167: Subsistence - Meals Taken After Arrival at Post of Duty.

"Par. 62 of the Standardized Government Travel Regulations authorizing reimbursement for meals taken by employees while en route to or from an official station when the departure is before or the arrival after certain specified hours can not be construed to authorize reimbursement for meals not taken en route to or from an employees' official station, but taken at his official station.

A-29269, page 168: Compensation - Travel Expenses - Temporary Employees As Witnesses Before Federal Grand Juries.

"A temporary employee of the Civil Service Commission subpoenaed to appear to testify on behalf of the Government is entitled to his regular compensation for the time necessarily absent from his regular work.

"A temporary employee of the Civil Service Commission subpoenaed to appear to testify on behalf of the Government is not entitled to witness fees or mileage, but is entitled to his necessary expenses, under the Standardized Government Travel Regulations, in going, returning, and while necessarily at the place where the jury is in session."

A-28586, page 111: Compensation - Deceased Employees.

"Payment may be made to the one legally entitled thereto of the compensation due a deceased employee of the United States up to and including the date of death, but payment may not be made to include any date later than that on which the employee was last known to be alive.

Vol. 8, A-24566, page 170: Traveling Expenses - Division of - Gasoline Tax.

"Where an employee of the United States is traveling on official business in his private automobile and is accompanied by a person other than an employee of the United States, the employee may be reimbursed for one-half of the expenditures for gasoline exclusive of the State tax. No reimbursement of the State tax may be made to such employee.

A-24730, page 183: Transportation Requests.

"Where the owners or operators of ferries at isolated points object or refuse to accept Government transportation requests, the traveler

may make payment in cash and claim reimbursement therefor on his regular travel voucher with an explanatory note of the reason for failure to use transportation requests.

A-24720, page 193: Traveling Expenses - Use of American Vessels.
"Section 601 of the merchant marine act of May 22, 1928, 45 Stat. 697, requires officers and employees of the United States when traveling on official business overseas to use vessels registered under the laws of the United States when available both in going to and returning from the foreign country unless there be furnished proof, satisfactory to the Comptroller General of the United States, of the necessity for the use of a vessel of some other nationality.

A-24639, page 199: Traveling Expenses - Sleeping-Car Accommodations - Stopovers for Personal Convenience.

"Where civilian employees traveling under orders with sleeping-car privileges make stop-overs en route without official authority, to spend nights in hotels rather than on trains, such expenses when less than authorized sleeping car accommodations will be paid, but the employee will be charged with annual leave or leave without pay for the time lost by reason of the stop-overs.

A-25283, page 299: Advertising - Bids - Acceptance on Basis of Element not Mentioned in Advertisement.

"A bid should not be accepted because the bidder proposes to do the work in less time than the lowest bidder when the advertisement for proposals has not notified all concerned that the time element would be considered in the acceptance of bids.

A-24969, page 354: Contracts - Purchases of Indefinite Quantities.
"While it may be proper in inviting bids and making contracts for the furnishing of supplies to provide for a reasonable variance from the quantities stated, this should be done by specifying not exceeding a maximum percentage for such variance - such as 10 per cent or 20 per cent, depending upon the articles or supplies to be purchased - so that a bidder may know the maximum quantity he may be called upon to furnish, and the maximum amount of the obligation against the appropriation may be determined at the time the contract is made. Where it is found that a quantity in excess of the maximum percentage variance is required such excess should be purchased independently of the original contract and after proper advertising.

A-25599, page 391: Traveling Expenses - Pullman Receipts.
"Par. 95 (r) of the Standardized Government Travel Regulations requires that receipts be furnished in support of travel vouchers claiming reimbursement for sleeping-car, parlor-car, and stateroom fares when paid in cash, and an affidavit that such receipts have been lost can not be accepted as authorizing reimbursement of such expenses. 3 Comp. Gen. 775 no longer applicable. 6 Comp. Gen. 116 distinguished.

A-25361, page 454: Coupon Books for the Procurement of Gasoline and Oil.

"The purchase on behalf of the Government of coupon books to be used in the procurement of gasoline and oil incident to the operation of an automobile under Government control is not authorized, as such purchase involves the payment for supplies in advance of delivery in contravention of section 3648, Revised Statutes.

"Reimbursement may not be made of the value of a coupon book for the procurement of gasoline and oil alleged to have been used by an employee traveling under orders, in the absence of satisfactory evidence as to the time, place, quantity, or price of the gasoline and oil that were furnished in exchange for the coupons detached from the book, and that the gasoline and oil were used on the official travel.

A-26319, page 484: Transportation - Land-Grant Deductions - Express Shipments.

"Under the reorganization plan of express service pursuant to which Railway Express Agency, Inc., was organized to perform express service as an agency of participating railroads beginning March 1, 1929, charges for express services by such agency are subject to land-grant deductions the same as if the service by such agency were performed by the participating railroads subject to land-grant laws.

A-26259, page 534: Traveling Expenses - Employee Directed to Take Physical Examination with View to Retirement.

"Where an employee of the Government travels for the purpose of taking a physical examination with a view to possible retirement, without the direction of the Commissioner of Pensions though under the direction of the administrative head of the office in which employed, such employee is not entitled to reimbursement of expenses so incurred.

A-26960, page 565: Traveling Expenses - Excess Baggage - Government Property.

"When an employee traveling on official business is required by the nature of such business to carry with him instruments and other Government property in excess of what one porter could ordinarily handle and of such nature that it can not be intrusted to transfer companies he may be allowed reimbursement for additional fees to the several porters necessary to handle such equipment at stations and hotels, at not exceeding the rates specified in par. 99 (c) of the Standardized Government Travel Regulations.

A-25513, page 570: Traveling Expenses - Medical Treatment - Employees Injured Coincident with Termination of Travel Status.

"An employee who is injured coincident with the termination of his official duty in a travel status may be reimbursed from the administrative appropriation available for traveling expenses for the expense incurred in returning to his headquarters, even though the trip is delayed due to the injury, in an amount not to exceed the amount that should have been incurred if the employee had returned uninjured immediately after the completion of his official duties by the shortest usually traveled route. 6 Comp. Gen. 278 distinguished."